

OPM-11

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET



SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Okinawa Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

June 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

A C/Ops

15 JUL 1988

2.

3.

C/E&PS

7/29

4.

DD/FBIS

18 Jul

B

5.

D/FBIS

R

6.

7.

PO/RA

7/18

Om

8.

SA/CD

7/20

B

9.

10.

C/AS

11.

C/B&F/AS

12.

C/PERS

13.

14.

C/AG

27/7

m

15.

Exec. Reg.

FBIS 5018-88
5 July 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
FROM: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - June 1988

STAT

I. GENERAL

A. The Okinawa rainy season officially ended in June, with all of us wishing that we could have exported some of our spring overflow to the Midwest farm belt. Here the sugarcane is getting high, but fortunately all of our new antenna poles for our antenna renovation program have been installed in time. Most of the antenna connections have been completed, though three of the rhombics are still not in operation. Air Force inspectors have given their seal of approval to the new poles, which means that the Air Force will now resume maintenance responsibility.

B. Preparations for new satellite dish installations are underway, and the bureau chief discussed FBIS satellite dish construction plans with local Yomitan Mayor Yamauchi on 29 June, during one of the mayor's few free hours this month away from leading demonstrations against continued U.S. use of Yomitan Airfield. We hope to avoid similar activities. During the meeting, Mayor Yamauchi quipped that perhaps we could use the new dish to better inform Washington of Yomitan's desire to reclaim its airfield. Bureau satellite dish plans for the near future include a direct satellite communications link, an upgrade to the current 10-meter roset, and a small steerable dish to cover the new Chinasat.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In anticipation of the CPSU's 19th All-Union Party Conference, which opened on 28 June, the bureau adjusted Russian Unit staffing to keep monitors on duty during times indicated by Moscow TV program previews as likely to be productive. With the unit chief on EOT travel, the unit had only two monitors on duty. Unfortunately, our efforts yielded little unique material. The "Diary" programs were not prerecorded, so they were not shown first in the Far East, we did not locate any pass-feeds, and the regional radios did not carry any unique coverage of live speeches by local delegates. We did note that during the second day of the conference Gorbachev sat in the same type of chair as everyone else, instead of in an arm chair with higher back as on the first day.

2. The commo situation was especially frustrating this month, with several outages located at the ASC's. Causes ranged from equipment failures to undetermined (or undisclosed) circuit problems. Late in the month, a change initiated by Headquarters to facilitate an upgrade from Baudot to Ascii that is underway throughout the system resulted in a number of garbles in incoming and outgoing traffic. The problem soon resolved itself on the Mode I circuit as all bureaus changed over to the new system, but most messages coming in on Mode V have been garbled. At month's end coordination was underway with Yokota ASC and Headquarters to solve the problem.

3. On 14 June, following completion of renovation on the antenna used for recording Soviet regional radios, we resumed recording such radios for forwarding to London Bureau. Seoul Bureau had been handling this task since 20 April.

4. In response to a request from Panama Bureau, we sent them a diskette containing Okinawa's editorial electronic "ears" along with a batch file designed to automatically install the ears. Their request resulted from earlier exchanges between the bureaus on the new FBIS message format file.

B. Technical

1. At the request of Headquarters, the bureau evaluated the Hewlett Packard Rugged Writer dot matrix printer. Tests indicated the printer would be an useful addition to the FBA system, replacing the existing laser printers which have proven costly to maintain.

2. Construction of an Army microwave tower relay site on bureau property across the street from the operations building continued during the month with connection of power from the main service cable. During the transition, the bureau operated on its standby generator.

3. The bureau carpenter completed a room for new satellite equipment in the old electronics shop. Extra space in the bureau is now at a premium as we are storing crates of Skylink material as well as boxes of equipment for the LEC team due in July.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Monitor trainee [] joined the bureau's Chinese unit on 29 June. He is accompanied by his wife and two daughters.

STAT

2. Two Chinese monitor applicants, [] of Taipei and [] of Manila, have withdrawn their applications. We now have no more Taiwanese in queue, but two Philippine candidates are still in processing.

STAT
STAT

3. Contract Japanese monitor [] completed training with flying colors in three weeks, a bureau record. [] previously served for a year as a Chinese monitor in Hong Kong and has now demonstrated equally impressive accomplishments in Japanese.

STAT
STAT

4. Editorial trainee TDYers [] completed their training TDYs and departed Okinawa on 30 June.

STAT

B. Buildings and Grounds

1. The bureau started gathering data for its new computerized housing inventory system during the month. The new system will provide bureau management with a tool to determine replacement requirements for furniture and to establish and maintain an equitable replacement cycle.

IV. VISITORS

To The Bureau:

Two visitors from Embassy Tokyo took time out from their vacation for a one-day TDY on 21 June to discuss finance and computer aids to administrative procedures. Contractors [] visited the bureau 21-25 June to examine prospects for renovating the 10-meter Roset dish.

STAT
STAT

From The Bureau:

Bureau Admin Officer [] TDYed to Tokyo 6-8 June to discuss bureau financial matters with the Embassy. The Bureau Chief attended change of command ceremonies for the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade on 17 June and for the Amphibious Force Seventh Fleet on 23 June. [] toured NSGA Hanza on 30 June.

STAT

STAT

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bureau personnel greeted rain-free summer days with outdoor activities during the month, including a bureau trip to the beach on Ikei Island on 5 June and a boat trip to Tsuken Island on 12 June. Two typhoons passed close by, but had the courtesy to die down before skimming past Okinawa.

STAT